

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

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OLNEY MAN CHARGED WITH METHAMPHETAMINE OFFENSES

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on January 5, 2006, **ANTHONY R. ACORD**, age 46, of Olney, Illinois, was named in a three count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

ACORD was charged with conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine (Count 1); attempt to manufacture methamphetamine (Count 2); and possession of materials for use in the manufacture of methamphetamine (Count 3).

With respect to Count 1, **ACORD** faces a penalty of 5-40 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years.

With respect to Count 2, **ACORD** faces a penalty of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 3 years.

With respect to Count 3, **ACORD** faces a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of up to 3 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office, the Olney Police Department, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The Richland County State's Attorneys Office has assisted throughout the investigation and has prosecuted a number of individuals in related cases in Richland County Circuit Court.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.